In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, on the line after the title of the invention, please insert the following paragraph:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a division of Serial No. 10/023,725, filed December 21, 2001, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. - -

Page 1, third full paragraph:

A stiffened panel 10 shown in FIG. 1 is formed in such a manner that a skin 11 and a stiffener 12 are manufactured according to respective shapes, and they are ~~binding~~ bound to each other by a fastener 13 (rivet or the like).

Page 1, last paragraph bridging pages 1 and 2:

The method of manufacturing a stiffened panel by bonding a skin and a stiffener by means of an adhesive requires molding of the skin and the stiffener, a pre-bonding process for the skin and the stiffener, positioning the skin and the stiffener, and provision of a pressurized holding tool for bonding, thus the cost ~~become~~ becomes high.

Page 2, first full paragraph:

The method of manufacturing a stiffened panel by machining a thick metal plate by machine working has a problem that since ~~a most part~~ much of ~~a~~ the material is cut and discarded, ~~resource is~~ resources are wasted, and a problem that as weight efficiency is heightened, the cost of machine working becomes higher.

Page 4, third paragraph:

The composite material-stiffened panel 1 has a skin 2, several stiffeners 3, a fiber-reinforced resin-composite material 4 and ribs 5. The skin 2 is obtained by molding a fiber-reinforced resin-composite material into a flat skin. The stiffeners 3 are arranged in rows on one surface of the skin 2 with a gap in one direction. The fiber-reinforced resin-composite material 4 is provided on and stitched on the skin 2 so as to partially cover the stiffeners 3. The ribs 5 connect the stiffeners 3 each ~~other~~ arranged in rows.

Page 5, third paragraph:

As shown in FIG. 6, the rib 5 is formed in such a manner that a portion of one end of a prepreg-band material through which the stiffener 3 is to be put is cut out and is ~~bend~~ bent by a molding tool 7 so as to have an L-shaped section. Moreover, as shown in FIG. 7, the rib 5 may be formed in such a manner that two prepregs are molded by the molding tool 7 so as to have a L-shaped section for lamination. The rib 5 is placed on the skin 2 via an adhesive 8 and is heated to be hardened together with the skin 2, the stiffener 3 and the fiber-reinforced resin-composite material 4 for bonding.

Page 5, fifth paragraph:

A method of manufacturing a composite material stiffened panel will be explained below.

Page 6, third full paragraph:

The reformed other three-dimensional fabric material 4 is subject to a stitching process along edge portions of the stiffeners 3 in a longitudinal direction of the stiffeners 3. The other three-dimensional fabric material 4 is ~~binded~~ bound to the three- dimensional fabric material 2 by a stitch yarn 9. As a result, the stiffeners 3 can be positioned on predetermined positions without a positioning tool.

Page 7, second full paragraph:

The stiffeners 3 are put between the loosened fabric material 4 and the fabric material 2. Portions of the loosened fabric material 4 corresponding to edges of the stiffeners 3 are stitched so that the other three-dimensional fabric material 4 is ~~binded~~ bound to the three-dimensional fabric material 2 by the stitch yarn 9. As a result, a positioning tool for the stiffeners for hardening is not necessary.

Page 8, last paragraph:

Furthermore in the composite material-stiffened panel manufacturing method of the present invention, the fabric material is placed on the tool having a panel-shaped surface. Another fabric material is placed on the aforementioned fabric material so that it is loosened in some places for the stiffeners to be put through. The stiffeners are put through between the loosened fabric material and the fabric material. Portions of the loosened fabric material corresponding to the edges of the stiffeners are stitched. All of the materials are covered with the bagging film for vacuum. Resin is infiltrated into the fabric materials by the RTM or the RFI method, and the infiltrated resin is heated to be hardened. As a result, it is not necessary to previously mold stiffeners one by one. The stiffeners can be positioned easily by stitching. Moreover, manufacturing of several molding tool and their complicated attachment and removal works can be omitted.